

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PORT A 01646 222132Z

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ACTION PC-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 L-03 USIA-15

M-02 A-01 IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01

/093 W

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R 222030Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8451

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT AU PRINCE 1646

DEPT PASS PEACE CORPS FOR LA REGIONAL DIRECTOR PEREZ FROM
AMBASSADOR ISHAM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, HA

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN HAITI

REF: (A) STATE 178964; (B) PORT-AU-PRINCE 1546; (C) PORT-AU-
PRINCE 0400; (D) PORT-AU-PRINCE 1809 10/19/73

1. SUMMARY: OUR PREPARATIONS FOR MUENZE'S VISIT, WHICH HE WAS OBLIGED TO CANCEL AT LAST MINUTE, REVEALED THAT GOH HAS LOST ALL MOMENTUM IN CONSIDERING WHETHER IT WISHES REQUEST INTRODUCTION PEACE CORPS PROGRAM IN HAITI. I CINCLUDE THERE IS NO RPT NO POINT RETAINING ALLOCATION PC FUNDS FOR HAITI FOR USE FY 75. WHILE I REMAIN CONVINCED OF GREAT POTENTIAL VALUE PC ACTIVITY IN HAITI, IT HAS BECOME CLEAR THAT A GOOD DEAL MORE PREPARATORY SPADEWORK IS REQUIRED. END SUMMARY.

2. FOR PEREZ: GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR RAPID RESPONSE MY REQUEST, MAKING MARK MUENZE VAILABLE FOR DISCUSSIONS HERE ON SHORT NOTICE. WHILE I REGRET MUENZE HAD TO CANCEL VISIT BECAUSE OF CRITICAL NEGOTIATIONS SANTO DOMINGO, OUR PREPARATORY CONTACTS WITH PRESIDENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PORT A 01646 222132Z

DUVALIER AND WITH CABINET MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR

SECTORS WHERE WE HAVE PROPOSED INITIAL PC ACTIVITY HAVE PROVED USEFUL FOR RESOLVING IMMEDIATE ISSUE OF TIMING POSSIBLE INITIATION OF PROGRAM. I PLAN VISIT WASHINGTON ON CONSULTATION WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 9 AND WOULD LIKE CONSULT WITH YOU AND MUENZE THEN ON HOW WE MIGHT BEST PURSUE THE MATTER.

3. PURSUANT REF (A) I SUBMITTED TO FONMIN AUGUST 16 REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT DUVALIER AUGUST 22 IN WHICH PRESIDENT WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY RECEIVE DIRECTLY FROM MUENZE CLARIFICATION OF POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES BY VOLUNTEERS IN HAITI WITH ILLUSTRATIONS FROM PROGRAMS ELSEWHERE IN REGION INCLUDING DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. HAVING RECEIVED NO RESPONSE, I RAISED QUESTION OF APPOINTMENT AUGUST 21 WHEN I SAW HIM ON OTHER BUSINESS. HE WAS DEFINITELY RELUCTANT INVOLVE HIMSELF PERSONALLY ON THIS OCCASION AND REQUESTED THAT MUENZE BE PUT IN TOUCH WITH MINISTERS CONCERNED.

4. MEANWHILE, IN ABSENCE FOREIGN MINISTER BRUTUS, WE HAD CALLED ON JAURES LEVEQUE, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS DANIEL BEAULIE, MINISTER PUBLIC HEALTH AND POPULATION, TO ARRANGE SEPARATE INTERVIEWS FOR MUENZE AND ASK THEM GIVE SOME PRIOR THOUGHT TO TYPES OF ACTIVITY IN WHICH SMALL INITIAL GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS COULD BE MOST USEFUL. IN TALK WITH LEVEQUE, DCM THOMSON AND I SOON FOUND WE WERE PRESUMING TOO MUCH KNOWLEDGE ON HIS PART OF PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOH. UNTIL WE SWITCHED GEARS AND STARTED BRIEFING FROM SCRATCH, HE SEEMED TO THINK WE WERE SEEKING TO OBTAIN GOH PERMISSION FOR SOME TYPE MISSIONARY OPERATIONS IN HAITI. AFTER EXTENSIVE BASIC BRIEFING ON PC IN WHICH THOMSON CITED EXAMPLES OF PC ACTIVITY WITH WHICH HE WAS FAMILIAR DURING PRIOR TOUR OF DUTY AFGHANISTAN, LEVEQUE INDICATED INTEREST BUT SAID HE WOULD NEED WRITTEN MATERIAL IN ORDER TO FOCUS ON POSSIBILITIES. WE STRESSED THAT USG HAD NO INTEREST IN "SELLING" A PC PROGRAM TO HAITI BUT WANTED GOH TO BE AWARE OF OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE FOR DEVELOPING HAITI'S OWN HUMAN RESOURCES THROUGH PCVS. LEVEQUE DID INQUIRE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PORT A 01646 222132Z

ABOUT REFORESTATION AS POSSIBLE ACTIVITY AND I REPLIED I FELT SURE THIS WAS A FIELD FOR WHICH PCVS COULD BE RECRUITED. EXPERIENCE WITH BEAULIEU WAS SIMILAR. IN SHORT, WHATEVER IMPACT GERRY HIRSCH MAY HAVE MADE WITH HIS VISIT LAST NOVEMBER SEEMS TO HAVE COMPLETELY DISSIPATED.

5. INTERIM ACTION REQUESTED:

(A) EMBASSY HAS NO RECORD OF HIRSCH CONVERSATIONS WITH GOH. IF HE MADE ANY MEMORANDUM THEREOF, WOULD APPRECIATE COPY.

(B) WE ALSO HAVE NO COPY OF MODEL AGREEMENT WHICH HIRSCH PRESENTED TO FONMIN. SINCE THAT COPY APPEARS NOT TO HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVELY CIRCULATED WITHIN GOH, EMBASSY COULD MAKE USE OF ADDITIONAL COPIES.

(C) NEITHER EMBASSY NOR USIS HAS ANY BASIC WRITTEN MATERIAL ON PC SUITABLE FOR PURPOSES AT HAND. PLEASE FURNISH, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE IN FRENCH LANGUAGE.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 22 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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